Questions by: Mr. Keefe

h15

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: The first one of which is a typewritten page, dated December 28, 1943, entitled "Memorandum for Captain Safford"?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: Is that identical with the December 28 letter, which is in evidence, the "Memorandum for Captain Safford"?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir, it is a copy of it. The first part of the piece of paper you are discussing is a copy of my reply to Captain Safford.

Mr. Keefe: No, it is not.

Captain Kramer: Except that it is not left in the cryptic form I used in my reply, but expanded for ready perusal by Admiral Halsey.

Mr. Keefe: All right.

In other words, then, am I to understand that, so far as the first 2-1/2 pages of these documents, that you have submitted are concerned, you intended to write up for the use of Admiral Halsey, the exact information which is contained in your letter of 28 December, 1943 entitled "Memorandum for Captain Safford," without code language in it, is that right?

Captain Kramer: That is right, sir.

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Mr. Keefe: Well, then, there appears also a letter dated 22 January, 1944, "My dear Kramer-san."

That is a decoding of the letter of Captain Safford to you?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: In plain English?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: And is it exactly the same as the letter which was written by Captain Safford to you, with some expansion on your part? Is it identical as you translate his code?

Captain Kramer: It is exactly Captain Safford's wording with the exception that it expands the code he used into plain English.

Mr. Keefe: And in this instrument that you have given us now, you have inserted the answers to Captain Safford's questions have you not?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: For the benefit of Admiral Halsey? Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: In other words, had you answered the letter of Captain Safford which Safford had written you under date of January 22, 1944, and which you had not answered, you would have answered it as it appears in this memorandum which you prepared for Admiral Halsey, is that correct?

Captain Kramer. That is correct, sir.

h16

2

5

4

8

8

8

11

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 AL

fls 24

3

4

5

6

7

8

8

10

11

12

13

AL-1

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Mr. Keefe: Did you turn this over to Admiral Halsey?

Captain Kramer: I showed it to him and he read it.

There was only the one copy made. I have retained it thereafter.

Mr. Keefe: This is the first time that anyone on this committee has seen this correspondence, is it?

Captain Kramer: I believe that is correct, sir.

Counsel has not been shown it, so far as I am aware, sir.

Mr. Keefe: You have not turned it over to the Navy Department heretofore?

Captain Kramer: On that point, Mr. Baecher, Lieutenant Commander Baecher, the Naval liaison officer with counsel for this committee, requested some days ago that he be permitted to photostat this in case it was called for by the committee while I was a witness, in case the subject came up and those letters were called for.

Mr. Keefe: How did he know that you had such a letter?

Captain Kramer: I mentioned that in conversations with

Mr. Baecher, chiefly because a reference to that appears

in the record of my testimony before Admiral Hewitt, I believe

in reply to one or more questions when I referred to Captain

Safford's letters.

Mr. Keefe: When was this written?

Captain Kramer: About the middle of May, 1944.

S. G. MOTOMINEAW JUAN & GRAW

14 15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

метринети.

letter.

(12)

Mr. Keefe: Did you dictate it to anyone to type?

Captain Kramer: I typed it entirely myself, sir, taking

many hours of about four nights to do so.

Mr. Keefe: And that perhaps accounts for the apparent differences in the ribbons that were used, is that right?

Captain Kramer: That could well be, yes, sir, or using different typewriters.

Mr. Keefe: Using different typewriters, is that right? Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: So this was all typed by you yourself? Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: And contains the information and the study
that you had given to this whole situation sometime in 1944?
Captain Kramer: That was the second occasion on which
I had had occasion to recollect events about Pearl Harbor,
the first occasion being my reply to Captain Safford's first

Mr. Keefe: Did you have this before you when you testified before the Naval Court of Inquiry?

Captain Kramer: I had that in my possession; not before me during those proceedings.

Mr. Keefe: Then, Captain Kramer, when you came back from the South Pacific and flew in there after four days, and all tired out, as you said, you were caught cold when

6

5

9

10

8

11

12

13

15

14

WASHINGTON. D.

16

17

18

20

19

22

21

23

25

24

Witness Kramer Questions by: Mr. Keefe

you testified before the Naval Court of Inquiry, as a matter of fact, you had given long study to these facts and had reduced the story down to writing and had it in your possession at that time, had you not, as you remembered it out there in the South Pacific?

Captain Kramer: Mr. Keefe --

Mr. Keefe: (Interposing) Is that a fact or isn't it? Captain Kramer: It is not, sir.

Mr. Murphy: The witness is entitled to give his answer, I submit, and we are entitled to hear his answer.

Mr. Keefe: I want to hear it, too.

Mr. Murphy: Well, let us hear it.

The Vice Chairman: The witness may reply.

Captain Kramer: I have not read that letter at any time to date since our conversations, or my conversations with Admiral Halsey about the middle of May, 1944.

Mr. Keefe: Well, you had it, did not you, when you testified before the Naval Court of Inquiry at Pearl Harbor? Captain Kramer: That is correct, sir.

Mr. Keefe: You had it with you in your files, didn't you?

Captain Kramer: In my possession, yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: You could have referred to it had you wanted to, could not you?

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Captain Kramer: I could have, had I wanted to, yes, sir. Mr. Keefe: The point I am making, Captain, is before you testified before the Naval Court of Inquiry you had, in response to this request of Admiral Kimmel and prompted by Admiral Halsey, made up this statement which you have

submitted to me and which I have not had a chance yet to read?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: Now was that statement supposed to be a full and complete statement of the facts, so as to give answers to Admiral Kimmel's questions in the letter written to Admiral Halsey?

Captain Kramer: No, sir.

Mr. Keefe: Or was it supposed to be categorically answers to the questions asked of you by Captain Safford?

Captain Kramer: For neither purpose, sir. It was simply to apprise Admiral Halsey with a fairly comprehensive picture and to request his advice regarding the request of Admiral Kimmel.

It was further retained by me as a piece of paper probably complying with Admiral Kimmel's request, but I never reached a decision as to just what to do with it. I, of course, could not entrust it to the mail. The only other means of getting that piece of paper to a safe place other than keeping it in my possession would be to send it to the

SHAW ASMINGTON. Ö n

NOTENINEAW

н

Witness Kramer Questions by: Mr. Keefe
United States, to my wife, by a personal friend as courier.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Chairman, I understand some members of the committee have copies of this, and I think all members ought to have it so we can examine it.

Mr. Keefe: I understood him to say that they had mimeographed it, the Navy had.

Mr. Murphy: If some members of the committee now have copies, I would like to see one, too.

The Vice Chairman: Perhaps counsel can advise us on that.

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Chairman, there is a matter in connection with this letter and the photostatic copy we have which I think might be discussed with the committee in Executive Session.

The Vice Chairman: All right.

Mr. Richardson: That is why this has not been circulated.

Mr. Keefe: None of the members of the committee, I take it, have heretofore seen this letter. I did not see it before; I did not know it existed until Captain Kramer just stated so.

Senator Ferguson: Let the record show Mr. Richardson was sitting here reading it and I asked him what it was, I asked him if I could see a copy of what they were talking about.

2

Witness Kramer

6

4

8

10

14

13

15

16

18

17

19

20

22

21

23

24

25

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Mr. Murphy: I think everyone else should get a copy. Senator Ferguson: I am trying to compare it with the original copy, to see what it is.

Mr. Richardson: Until the committee makes a decision I am uncertain whether this is the copy that the committee wants. It should be taken up in the committee. It will not stop your examination at all, Mr. Keefe.

The Vice Chairman: The committee will abide by the advice of counsel.

Senator Ferguson: I have returned my copy to counsel. Mr. Richardson: This is not a copy.

Senator Ferguson: This is not a copy, he says.

Mr. Keefe: Now, Captain Kramer, in preparing this memorandum which you handed to me this afternoon, and which I have seen for the first time, which you say you prepared for the information of Admiral Halsey, did you attempt to follow the questions that had been asked by Captain Safford in his letter to you of January 22, 1944?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: Has counsel seen this before today?

Mr. Richardson: I never heard of it -- oh, yes, Commander Baecher told me yesterday morning that he had some papers that had been exhibited to him by the witness.

Mr. Keefe: Well, it is mighty funny, it seems to me,

(13)

GRAW

MOTDHINEAW

Mr. Chairman, when all the other members down to the last member of the committee has examined Captain Kramer at length, that our counsel has here eventually, at the tail end of this examination, what appears to me a very important and vital instrument which has been in the possession of the Navy and no one knew anything about it.

Now how are we ever going to be sure unless these things are going to be turned over to our counsel in advance, what facts there are? I haven't read it, I do not know what is in it, but it seems to me, if we are to believe what Captain Kramer says, that it represents his idea as to what these facts were when he wrote this in the spring of 1944.

Mr. Richardson: Now, Mr. Chairman, I think a word ought to go on the record at this point, because I have deliberately refused to have any preliminary conversations with either Captain Safford or Captain Kramer, because the testimony was in some controversy at rather high points, and I concluded I did not want to go over it with either one, inasmuch as I had the opportunity to read their earlier testimony.

I was just as surprised as any member of the committee when the letters appeared yesterday, or the day before, that Captain Safford had written including the code, the three letters, the letter of Captain Safford, the reply of

BRAW

MARMINGTON.

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Captain Kramer in the third letter, and the second letter of Captain Safford. I knew nothing about it, and I expressed myself, I think, with exceeding rudeness to Commander Baecher with reference to not having seen it, and he explained to me then he had certain papers that had to do, in part, with certain matters not connected with Pearl Harbor that the Navy was anxious should not be made public, and that those letters and papers would be available if I insisted on seeing them.

That is all I knew about that, and when the Congressman got this letter here that is the first I knew about that.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Chairman, I would like the record -The Vice Chairman: Just a moment. Let the Chair
observe for the record that Captain Kramer has stated that
he told Commander Baecher about this correspondence and
that Commander Baecher suggested that photostatic copies
of it should be made so as to be available for members of
the committee in case questions were asked about it or this
material was asked for of Captain Kramer.

Captain, is that a fairly accurate statement?

Captain Kramer: That is a precise statement, yes, sir.

arry collows

## Witness Kramer

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Chairman --

Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman --

The Vice Chairman: Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Chairman, I would like to have the record note that there was the letter from Admiral Wilkinson, we just learned about that, and Admiral Wilkinson was a witness for many days. That was the first we heard of Admiral Wilkinson having Admiral Halsey, after the witness refused to answer Captain Safford, call the witness into his quarters.

The Vice Chairman: I think this is not difficult to explain. This was personal correspondence that Captain Safford had.

Captain Kramer: Mr. Chairman, may I explain that I had no intention of introducing these letters into this hearing until they were specifically asked of me. I was a little surprised, if I may so state, that the issue came up during the questioning of Captain Safford. At that time Senator Lucas asked the question whether I was in the room.

I stood up in the rear of the room. He asked me the direct question whether I had those letters in my possession or not. I replied at that time that I did, and made them available.

Senator Lucas; Mr. Chairman, I don't think there is

Lac fls Shack HOTEMINEAW JUAN & USAW

3

5

4

6

7

8

9

10

11

13

14

менистои. В.

16

15

17

19

18

ξħ,

21

20

22

23

24

25

## Witness Kramer

anything unusual about this. I think the Hewitt report definitely shows that Captain Kramer did testify that he had written such letters. He only prepared these letters for any emergency that might come along in view of his previous testimony.

It is surprising to me that somebody hasn't asked for these before, in view of that testimony. All the Captain did wasto prepare these in the event any member of the committee wanted them.

Captain Kramer: I simply had them there.

Senator Lucas: Yes. There is nothing unusual about you presenting this testimony in view of your previous statement before the Hewitt committee.

Captain Kramer: Yes

Senator Lucas: If the members did want them you were ready to serve with the memorandum you had.

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, I would like for someone to point out where Captain Kramer, in his testimony, mentions this Halsey memorandum.

Captain Kramer: I previously stated in reply to a question of yours, Senator, that I have never to date read the record of the Hewitt investigation except such excerpts as appear in the Narrative. I could undoubtedly

2

4

8

6

7

8

9

11

10

12

13

14

м чанистои, п.

15

18

18

17

19

21

20

23

23

24

25

Questions by: Senator Ferguson Witness Kramer

locate it by examination of that record.

Senator Ferguson: I wish you would show me where it tells about the Halsey memorandum in this Hewitt report.

Captain Kramer: It was not a Halsey memorandum, sir.

Senator Ferguson: What?

Captain Kramer: It was not a Halsey memorandum.

Senator Ferguson: I mean in the Hewitt report.

Captain Kramer: It was a reference purely to Captain Safford's letters.

Senator Ferguson: Haven't you said something to the effect that this is a memorandum for Halsey?

Captain Kramer: I prepared it to show to Admiral Halsey, yes, sir.

Senator Ferguson: But never showed it to him?

Captain Kramer: I did show it to him.

Senator Ferguson: You say that is in this Hewitt record?

Captain Kramer: I do not believe there is any reference to any reply of mine to Captain Safford's second letter in that record.

Senator Ferguson: Then there is nothing in the record anywhere that you had made a memorandum and showed it to Admiral Halsey?

Captain Kramer: No, sir.

2

4

3

6

6

9

8

10

12

13 WASHINGTON, D.

14

16

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Questions by: Senator Ferguson Witness Kramer Senator Ferguson: That is what is surprising to me.

Senator Lucas: Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is anything surprising about that. There is evidence in the record about a letter that the Captain had received from Captain Safford: that is plain in the Hewitt report.

Now, in view of the chain of events that followed, Captain Safford's letter, it was certainly a most natural thing that he would have all the evidence that in any way was attached to or followed that letter in his possession and ready for the committee if it was so desired.

Captain Kramer: Senator Lucas, I would like to remark on that, that if it hadn't been for the wording of Mr. Keefe's question, did I discuss these matters with anyone, I would not have mentioned Admiral Halsey in connection with this hearing.

Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman --

The Vice Chairman: Permit me, Senator, to ask a question to see if I can clear this for the benefit of the record.

This memorandum that you prepared, as I understand it Captain, is a reply to Captain Safford's questions?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

The Vice Chairman: And you showed that memorandum which was prepared in reply to Captain Safford's questions h5

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

to Admiral Halsey?

Witness Kramer

Questions by: The Vice Chairman

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

The Vice Chairman: The memorandum was not addressed to Admiral Halsey?

Captain Kramer: It is not, sir.

It is a memorandum to Captain Safford. In other words, a reply to Captain Safford.

The Vice Chairman: But it was shown to Admiral Halsey? Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, this witness delivered to us certain memoranda, the Safford letter, his first reply, and the second Safford letter and no reply to iy.

Now, what I would like to know is this: Is there anything else other than that in the memorandum that you now have given to Congressman Keefe?

Captain Kramer: There is, sir.

Senator Ferguson: Then why didn't you give that to the committee when you gave us part of the evidence, and led this committee to believe that that was all of the evidence in relation to that?

Captain Kramer: Because it was a reply, it is true, but a reply that was never sent, and, therefore, not a mailed reply to Captain Safford. It was purely a memorandum prepared for Admiral Halsey which not necessarily need have been I might have covered the same thing verbally, k but felt in covering that, that I should take a few days to refresh my memory on those events.

11 12 13

14 15 16

17

18 19

20

21

23

22

24

25

AL fls

Lacharity (2) follows Hock AL-1

2

3

4

3

8

7

8

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

18

Witness Kramer

Senator Ferguson: Mr. Chairman, the witness will recall that I was examining in relation to conversations or meetings he had with other officers about his testimony.

Now, you gave me the answer as to Admiral Stark. gave me the answer on Admiral Wilkinson. How did you avoid giving me an answer on this, of your Admiral Halsey conversation?

Captain Kramer: There was no discussion whatsoever With Admiral Halsey, sir, regarding the events leading up to Pearl Harbor, except his perusal of that memorandum and my request following that of Admiral Halsey for his advice in the premises and some further remarks of his about his personal relations with Admiral Kimmel and what he was doing himself at the time of Pearl Harbor.

Senator Ferguson: So there is nothing in this -- I haven't read it yet -- there is nothing in it in relation to a conversation with Admiral Halsey about what happened up to the time of the bombing; is that correct?

Captain Kramer: That is not correct, sir.

Senator Ferguson: Well, then, there is something in there about what happened, what took place here in Washington in relation to the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Captain Kramer: There is, sir.

Senator Ferguson: Then how did you avoid giving me

17

18

20

18

21

22

23

24

Witness Kramer

that discussion when you gave me the Admiral Stark discussion that you had, that you had a conference with officers, and you had had one with Admiral Halsey?

Captain Kramer: There was no discussion.

Senator Ferguson: Was this one with Admiral Stark?
How did you keep that from your answer?

Captain Kramer: There was no discussion with Admiral Halsey, Senator, sir. It was my disclosing to him a background concerning Pearl Harbor with a view to asking his advice on what I should do in connection with Admiral Kimmel's request. That request appeared reasonable to me to this extent, that in case of my death in the Pacific Admiral Kimmel would not have my testimony in any proceedings which might subsequently take place.

Senator Ferguson: Now, is there any doubt, from now on, Captain, that you are going to give the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but? I mean in relation with whether you are asked a specific question or not. So that the committee might know that there is nothing being held back such as this. I would like to know whether you understand now.

Senator Lucas: Mr. Chairman, I might say that I was taken to task by the Senator from Maine the other day for making an implication. I submit that if while any man has

GRAW

Witness Kramer Questions by: Mr. Keefe

been on the stand here he has attempted to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth it is Captain Kramer.

Senator Ferguson: I am not doubting that, but I wanted to know whether or not there was any other thing like this that the witness now has, that we could review over the night. I am not casting any doubts.

The Vice Chairman: Permit the Chair to suggest that none of us have read this material, let us try to compose our patience until we do read it, to see whether there is anything to it. I think we would make time if we just suspended on this point until we have had a chance to look at it and see whether there is anything that will challenge the interest of any member of the committee and justify all of this discussion that we are having.

Mr. Keefe: Mr. Chairman, I am just beginning to wonder whether the floor has been complete taken away from me or not in connection with the examination.

The Vice Chairman: The Chair was wondering too and was trying to protect the gentleman from Wisconsin.

The gentleman from Wisconsin will proceed with his inquiry.

Mr. Keefe: Captain, so there can be no misunderstanding about it, this memorandum which you have given to me this afternoon was prepared by you out in the Pacific in 1944?

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: As a result of the conference which you had with Admiral Halsey when he showed you the letter that he had received from Admiral Kimmel?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: So in order to refresh your recollection as to the events you sat down with the letter from Admiral Kimmel to Admiral Halsey before you and the letter from Captain Safford of December 22 before you and decided to make up a memorandum?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: And the idea of making up that memorandum was so that you would have a complete record of the events referred to in those two letters so that if anything happened to you there would be some record or statement from you as to those events?

Captain Kramer: A fairly comprehensive coverage, yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: As you remembered the situation out there in the South Pacific?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir.

Mr. Keefe: Now, when you had completed the preparation of this memorandum you went back to Admiral Halsey and discussed it with him?

2

3

4

6

8

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

now.

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Captain Kramer: There was very little discussion. In fact, I don't think there was any discussion about the points appearing in that. The discussion concerned things that I have outlined in the past few minutes.

Mr. Keefe: Well, did you let him read it? Captain Kramer: He read it completely, yes, sir. Mr. Keefe: Then what did you do with the memorandum? Captain Kramer: I took it back to my quarters, sir. Mr. Keefe: And then what did you do with it? Captain Kramer: I retained it in my possession until

Mr. Keefe: Well, you said something about sending it by courier to Mrs. Kramer.

Captain Kramer: I was interrupted in my reply to that, sir, in that connection.

Mr. Keefe: I want you to finish that reply.

Captain Kramer: Any possible way of depositing such an affidavit in a safe place would require means that I have already outlined or that of a courier who could be trusted. By that I mean that I would have to give it to some close personal friend who was cognizant or aware or had worked with this material to take back and put it in a safe place in the United States.

23 24

Hook follows 25

3

4

5

6

7

8

8

10

11

12

13

14

Witness Kramer

Questions by: Mr. Keefe

Mr. Keefe: Did you do that, Captain?

Captain Kramer: I did not do that, sir, because I did not want to impose any any friendships I might have to the extent of requiring them to perjure themselves.

Mr. Keefe: Then, there isn't any necessity to go into that discussion, if you didn't put it into execution. That is the only thing I am interested in.

Captain Kramer: All right.

Mr. Keefe: You didn't put this into execution?

Captain Kramer: That is correct. I thought about it in fact all through the summer of 1944, and it was only after my testimony before Admiral Murfin's Court of Inquiry that I felt no further necessity of even thinking about that.

I simply kept those papers with me.

Mr. Keefe: And up to the time you testified before Admiral Murfin's Court of Inquiry you had been giving a lot of thought to this question?

Captain Kramer: A lot of thought only to what disposition I could make of those papers and to the form of such deposition if other than what I already hada. Not to the subject matter of that piece of paper.

Mr. Keefe: You were satisfied that the statements which you made in this memorandum prepared out there in the

WARD & PAUL. WASHINGTON, D. C.

16

23

23

18

20

21

24

23

24

25

Witness Kramer Questions by: Mr. Keefe South Pacific were the truth?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir, as of that time.

Mr. Keefe: And you had that memorandum and all of the thought that you could put on the general subject when you testified before the Naval Court of Inquiry out there at Pearl Harbor?

Captain Kramer: Yes, sir. I have indicated, I have not read that letter since I prepared it for Admiral Halsey.

Mr. Keefe: You mean you have had it in your possession all this time, and you haven't read it until now?

Captain Kramer: I have not read it to this moment, sir.

Mr. Keefe: All right. I haven't either, so you have nothing on me.

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Chairman, might I suggest, in view of that fact, there are one or two matters that ought to be referred to in an executive session, and might we have about a ten-minute executive session?

Mr. Keefe: I am cognizant of that, as all members are, I assume, and I shall not violate that situation.

The Vice Chairman: Permit the Chair to suggest, while there is no doubt that is correct, yet counsel has two or three things that he wants to bring to the attention of h3

the committee in executive session.

It is now almost five, and some members of the committee have indicated they will have to leave pretty soon.

As I understand, counsel is suggesting that we now go into executive session, rather than wait another ten or fifteen minutes.

The Committee will now go into executive session.

(Whereupon, at 4:50 o'clock p. m., the committee adjourned into executive session, to reconvene at 10:00 o'clock a. m., tomorrow morning, Saturday, February 9, 1946.)

